



LARC



Volume 60, Number 02

ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC., INC. - a 501(c)3 Corporation

February 2020

60th Annual 2020 AARA Hamfest

Each year the AARA hosts it's annual Hamfest to support club activities as well as the purchase and maintenance of club equipment. The upcoming 2020 Hamfest will be held March 13 - 14, 2020 at the Rayne Civic Center in Rayne, LA. The event will be open to the public from 3:00 PM until 8:00 PM on Friday. It will reopen to the public from 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM on Saturday.

Plenty of good food will be available on site.

Boiled crawfish will be served at 6:00 PM on Friday but pre-registration is required. Pre-registration forms are available at the w5ddl.org website
[Preregistration form](#)

Additional information regarding vendors, prizes, forums, etc will be posted on this website once that information becomes available.

AARA General Meeting 7:00 PM

February 6, 2020

Lafayette Science Museum 433 Jefferson St. Lafayette, LA

VE Testing 6:00 PM w5ddl.org

The LARC is published monthly

By the

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

DATES TO REMEMBER

GENERAL MEETING

February 6, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

Lafayette Science Museum
433 Jefferson Street
Lafayette, LA

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/>

Local 2-Meter Nets

Monday

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM

146.820 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

Tuesday

Region 4 SkyWarn Net 7:00 PM

145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

Wednesday

Silent Key Memorial Net 6:30 PM

146.820 PL 103.5 New Iberia, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2019 - 2020

President – Chris Ancelet N5MCY
cancelet@gmail.com

V. Pres. - Derek Meche WM5TS

Secr – David McCutcheon KG5JHR

Treasurer - Tom Dischler W5OHJ

BOARD MEMBERS

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

Steve Webre AF5VR

Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF

YOUTH MEMBER

Patrick Taylor – KG5YFR

QSL MANAGER

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AARA REPEATER GROUP

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Derek Meche WM5TS

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

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jdmeaux2002@gmail.com

Web Master

David McCutcheon KG5JHR

January 2020



VE Test Session

January 2, 2020

Started off the year pretty good. One new Tech & one upgrade to Amateur Extra.

The candidates were Hailey R. Doucet ~KI5HTC ~ of New Iberia (Tech) & Bradley K. Vincent ~KG5KZR ~ of Gueydan (KG5KZR) upgraded to Amateur Extra.

The VEs helping out were: Greg ~ K5LFT, Dave ~ N4ELM, Archie ~ W5AG, Michael ~ KI5ARX, & a new Ve Raymond Costilla ~ N5KIR.

Congratulations to the testees & a great big thank you to the VEs in attendance.....

73, de Greg ~ K5LFT



What is a Net?

By Joseph "Moe" Meaux K2JDM

When someone first gets into the Ham radio hobby, one of the first questions they may ask is "What is a net?"

The general definition of a Net (or Network) "is to allow people to be helpful to each other professionally, particularly in finding a better job, or moving to a higher position" doesn't exactly apply to the Ham radio hobby. It is close! A Net in Ham radio is a gathering of people used to share information and to train in proper radio etiquette or protocols. Most radio nets are held at a regular scheduled time and frequency.

There are two formats of any net; Formal and Informal. A **FORMAL NET** has one operator that is in control for maintaining order on the net, "making sure that traffic is passed in a timely manner and that more than one person doesn't talk at the same time".

The operators in the field must first ask permission to talk typically by giving their callsign only. The net control station will acknowledge that they have traffic and give them permission to pass said traffic or to tell that person to standby if there is higher priority traffic that needs to be passed first. Once the field operator has finished with whatever traffic they need to pass, they will clear with their callsign per FCC regulations. The net control station will then log the information and/or pass the traffic to where it needs to go to. Formal nets are often more efficient than informal ones because someone is basically directing traffic.

INFORMAL NETS still have a net control station, but they do not control the flow of traffic. Instead, they keep a log of traffic and stand by in case something major happens and the net needs to be changed to a formal net forum. This format allows field operators to call other field operators without having to ask permission first. This type of net is often used when it is not really important to have an organized flow of traffic.

An example of this informal net would be if the local skywarn team sees that there is a major storm coming but is still a little ways away from the area. This allows the field operators to get to their spots before the storm makes your area to allow as much coverage as needed. Once the storm gets closer, the net can change to a formal style.

What types of nets are there? Well, there are several types. One of the most common is the **SKYWARN Net**. This is storm spotting in a formal format and in conjunction with the National Weather Service and your local Emergency Management Office. These are only activated by the NWS or your local EMC. Hams will be activated and meet on a predetermined frequency and will "watch" the storm as it comes into your area, passing on what they see to the net control so the information can be in turn relayed to the nearest NWS office. SKYWARN personal are very important to the NWS because after a couple of miles from their radar station, it can not see below about 10,000 feet. Spotter on the ground have to fill in the blanks for the meteorologists the NWS office.

Information and/or Training Nets is also a common net. These are typically done in a formal format to help train operators how to operate during a net, how to pass traffic, or just give news of upcoming events. They are usually done as club nets on a VHF or UHF repeater, at a scheduled time and frequency. This type is good to get a new ham over their fear of talking over a radio.

Rag Chew Nets are typically done in a semi-formal or informal format. These types

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are held on HF and sometimes on UHF or VHF. These are usually done when a bunch of people come together at the same time and same frequency to talk about there day, what they are doing, or just general discussions.

SWAP Nets are used to buy or sell equipment. Well, per the FCC regulations, you can not actually conduct business on the air, you can say what you have that you want to sell, the price you are looking for, and the phone number where they can contact you. You can not negotiate prices or talk about the price on the net or on any over the air frequencies. These nets are semi-formal.

RACES and ARES Nets are both formal nets used during and after a natural disaster or a large scale event. A RACES Net is used during the actual emergency event, while the ARES Net is used after the emergency event. The ARES Net operators will typically do things like search and rescue, damage assessments, clean up, etc. More information on these two types of nets can be found at the ARRL.org website. [ARRL.org ARES / RACES FAQ](https://www.arrl.org/ares-races-faq)

As you can see both formal and informal nets are used in a wide variety of types of nets, and can be interchanged at a moments notice to help facilitate the amount of traffic.

1/27/2020
1580007160657blob.jpg



Talk in
146.940
167.9

19th Annual
March 7th, 2020

**Fox
Hunt**

ARRL TEXAS STATE CONVENTION
Presented by the Greater Houston HamFest

Admission: On-line \$8 At the Door \$12 Children Under 12 Free!
Scouts, Military and First Responders in Uniform - Free!

8' Tables \$25 each 10' x 10' Booth \$50 Free Electricity
Free Tailgating!

Two Balloon
Launches!

Ham Radio
Technician Class!
(must pre-register)

Friday, March 6th, 2020
Table Set-up 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm
NEW FOR FRIDAY EVENING SPAGETTI DINNER 6 - 8 PM
\$15 PER PERSON TICKETS ON-LINE

RV Parking
Available

Ham
Radio
License
Testing!

Saturday, March 7th, 2020

Programs 7:00 am to 3:30 pm Sales 8:00 am to 2:00 pm Grand Prize Raffle 2:00 pm
DMR 101 Code Plug Writing Classes 9am, 11 am, 1pm
Testing 9:00 am, 11 am Tailgate 6:00 am to 3:30 pm

Programs and Speakers

Guest Speaker - Forrest Mims III - Author of Radio Shack Engineer's Mini-Notebook Series
ARRL FORUM - JOHN STRATTON, N5AUS, WEST GULF DIVISION DIRECTOR PAUL GILBERT, KESZW, SOUTH TEXAS SM
ARES District 14 Meeting - Jeff Walter, KESFGA Balloon Program & Launch - Andy McAllister, W5ACM
SMD Soldering - Donovan Bali, KG5BDZ Amateur Radio and Grounding - ABR Industries
South Texas Balloon Launch Team - Andy MacAllister, W5ACM

CONVENTION PRIZE	GRAND PRIZE Raffle 1 st Prize	DMR Prize
RIG EXPERT AA-600 ANALYZER 	Icom IC-7300 	ANYTONE AT-D578UV IIIPRO 

Raffle Ticketes \$2 each Drawing 2 pm - Raffle Tickets Purchased on Site
Door Prizes every half hour stating at 9:00 am!
Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, 4310 Texas-36 Rosenberg, TX 77471
29°31'12" N 95°48'38" W
www.HoustonHamfest.org 2020 flyer ver 2.0

Slidell EOC Hamfest, 7/24-25/2020 in the New Slidell Auditorium

_ My name is David Hartley (K5OZ) and I am the 2020 Ozone Amateur Radio Club (OARC) Hamfest coordinator. Our Club is located in Slidell, Louisiana 25 miles northeast of downtown New Orleans (w5sla.net). This year's Hamfest will again be a big one; we will be combined the second year in a row with the W9DYV Vintage Radio Symposium (www.ce-multiphase.com). Last year our event combination drew over 500 hams and this year we expect it to be more than 1000 because we have located the symposium/forums in the same building as our hamfest. This building is the new Slidell Auditorium and features Forum Rooms and over 10,000 square feet of trading space. In addition, Slidell offers a great tourist spot to see New Orleans and other local area attractions while you are here.

We would love to have your company join us as a Hamfest vendor July 24-25, 2020. This year we are considering a one and one half day hamfest because our symposium is a full two days; i.e., 1) on Friday we will have vendor setup from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, 2) Flea market setup from 12 to 2 pm and 3) doors opening at 2:00pm to 5:00pm for Symposium/Hamfest attendees and Saturday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm for all attendees. Tear down will be from 2:00pm to 5:00pm Saturday afternoon. Let us know your thoughts on this day and one half idea.

The attached file shows the layout for the vendors and flea market tables. Please save the date and get your request in early via my email below. The vendor tables (blue) along the walls are 3' x 8' and are \$15 each. Flea market tables (Green) are \$10 each.

Thank you for your amateur products and please consider participating in our Hamfest in Slidell, LA this year. Please let us know as soon as possible so we can advertise your attendance on our flyers.

David E. Hartley, K5OZ dehartley@charter.net
985-707-8010

US Air Force Space Fence Nearing Operational Acceptance

According to NASA's most recent Orbital Debris Quarterly News, the space agency calculates about 17.6 million pounds of objects are in earth orbit, a number that will grow as launches proliferate -- including thousands of small satellites -- presenting a huge problem. The US Air Force Space Fence -- a second-generation space surveillance system now nearing completion -- is expected to play a crucial role.

Using advanced solid-state S-band radar technology, Space Fence is located on Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands. Such critical space-based technologies as weather forecasting, banking, global communications, and GPS navigation are under threat from space junk orbiting Earth. Collisions already are frequent, and defunct satellites and rocket boosters have increased the amount of space debris.

The Air Force Space Surveillance Network tracks about 25,000 objects. When Space Fence comes online, the catalog will expand considerably, and when fully operational, it will be the world's largest and most advanced radar system, offering unprecedented space situational awareness. Beyond cataloging objects, Space Fence will detect closely spaced objects, breakups, maneuvers, launches, and more.

Contractor Lockheed Martin reported last spring that Space Fence was able to detect debris from a microsatellite destroyed by India as part of an anti-satellite test. It then was able to determine the orbit of the remnants and predict when the space junk would pass through the fence again.

Space Fence is expected to become fully operational this year. -- Thanks to AMSAT News Service via Milsat Magazine; Lockheed Martin

Local 2-Meter Nets

MONDAY

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM
146.820 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

WEDNESDAY

Silent Key Memorial Net 6:30 PM
146.820 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**TUESDAY**

Region 4 Skywarn Net 7:00 PM
145.370 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net

Net Controllers will rotate each week and held on the 146.820 W5DDL Repeater only.

The AARA Monday Night Net and the Silent Key Memorial Net is being held on the 146.820.

The February 2020 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website. [Net Schedules](#)

REGION 4 SKYWARN NET

Each Tuesday night at 7:00 PM (local), the Region 4 Skywarn Net will take place on the 145.370 Skywarn Repeater in Lafayette, LA. Net Control Operators will alternate each week.

In case the 145.370 repeater fails, the net will be held on the 146.820 W5DDL repeater PL Tone 103.5.

The February 2020 schedule can be found at this link: [Net Schedules](#)

When using the Skywarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8 - Central 103.5

See our website for additional information: <http://www.w5ddl.org/repeaters.htm>



02-03	KB5NVP	Jim
02-04	KB5WI	Weston
02-15	K5ZRA	Greg
02-16	KD5NVC	Glenn
02-18	AF5VR	Steve
02-20	K7RTC	Richard
02-20	KG5SIS	Cheryl
02-24	KD5JSM	Danny
02-25		Kisha
02-27	W5RZY	Rose
03-12	KM6WDY	Mary
03-13	K5NCA	Bill

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing names to be missing from the list.

Don't forget to renew your membership by January 31st.

Milam Columbus "Lucky" Young KA5SUR – SK

Lucky Young KA5SUR KA5SUR, 92, a resident of Sulphur passed away January 19, 2020 after a short illness.

He was born May 13, 1927 in Kenedy, Texas. Graduated from South Park High School, Beaumont, Texas in 1945. Joined U S Navy in 1945 and served honorable in WW II and continued in the navy reserves until 1987 retiring after 42 years of service.

AARA Monthly Meeting Presentation Topics

In the January 2020 meeting, we had great discussion on the continuation of a monthly training topic. Many ideas were presented, and I was able to capture all of the ideas put on the table.

I am excited to see what our members will bring to the meeting as the Q4 meetings of 2019 were a big hit. I am certain that the demonstrations on the Raspberry Pi and Batteries eased the frustration of some and opened an avenue for others. With that said, I will list the topics that were brought up and a suggested name on each topic. As you read through the list, please reply to me stating whether or not you would be willing and/or able to present on the topic. This will allow us to build a schedule for the 2020 year and we can make reservations on the agenda.

1. Grounding – Fred Marshall
2. Contesting – Scotty Menard/Charlie Morrison
3. Different types of coax and their application – Dave Redfern
4. Solar Panels – Fred Marshall
5. Traffic Generation and relaying that information – (OPEN)
6. Winlink – Glen Thibodeaux
7. Antenna Building – (OPEN) This can take on so many roles from Dipoles, to J-Poles, to Emergency Communications.
8. Soldering (Possible conflict with LSM policy – Paul McCasland to check)
9. Radio Etiquette – (Chris Ancelet – February Topic)
10. Antenna Q&A – (Dave Redfern)
11. How to build a J-Pole – (Danny Daigle – Possible Summer Field Day Project)
12. How to Build a Home brew Yagi for 2m – (OPEN)
13. SDR Radio – (OPEN)
14. 3D Printing – (Paul McCasland)

So, with the list, we have over a year's worth of topics that could potentially be presented in our monthly sessions. I am looking forward to seeing who will step up to the plate and share their knowledge. If there are any additional topics you would like to see on this list, please feel free to send me an email or bring it up at one of our next meetings.

Chris Ancelet
N5MCY

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174
Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



*Share the Fun ~
Bring a Friend
to be a HAM.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

AARA Hamfest

March 13-14, 2020 Rayne, LA

For any additional information, check the W5DDL.org website

No-Bake Lemon Icebox Pie

- 1 Graham Cracker pie shell
- 8 oz cream cheese – softened
- 1 can (14 oz) sweetened condensed milk
- ½ cup lemon juice
- 1 Tsp grated lemon peel – optional

Chill pie crust about 1 hour. In large bowl, beat Filling ingredients until smooth. Spread evenly in crust. Refrigerate 4 hours but no longer than 8 hours.

Serve with whipped topping



FCC Information Service

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/ vanity call signs: 1-888-225-5322 This will connect you the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

ulscomm@fcc.gov.

FCC Website:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/ VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlyec>

*The mailing address to the FCC is:
Federal Communications Commission,
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554*